

Professional Standard: Registered Intelligence Officer

Authority

This standard was approved by the AFAC Council on 30 April 2018.

Context

The AFAC Emergency Management Professionalisation Scheme (the Scheme) is a program to credential emergency management practitioners who have completed a process to formally recognise their skills, abilities and experience.

Established by AFAC, the national council and peak body for fire, land management and emergency service agencies in Australia and New Zealand, the Scheme is a new initiative specifically designed to reinforce emergency management as a profession.

The Scheme is open to career and volunteer personnel of AFAC member agencies, as well as individuals from commercial or government entities.

Scope of application

This standard applies to applicants seeking registration in the role of Intelligence Officer. A proficient Intelligence Officer will be able to manage the Intelligence Unit or Section in a fully developed incident management structure, including an understanding of the purpose and function of the Units within the Intelligence Section and the ability to manage those units in the context of a complex incident.

Hazard specific expertise is evaluated as part of the education component of eligibility and is a matter for the assessing agency to determine. Registration is limited to the role and is not separated into hazard classes.

Applicants may be career staff or volunteers of AFAC member agencies or personnel from approved commercial or other government entities.

Registration

Registration as an Intelligence Officer is available to an individual who has successfully fulfilled all eligibility requirements. Individuals will be recognised as proficient in management of the Intelligence function as defined in AIIMS, with experience in running an Intelligence section at incidents of moderate to significant impact and complexity.

No distinction is drawn between registration of Intelligence Officers for level 2 and level 3 incidents. This is because in order to be eligible for registration, an applicant must demonstrate their ability to manage a developed Intelligence Section at an incident. Familiarity with managing elements of intelligence at a less complex incident is not sufficient to meet the requirements for registration. The practical difference between managing a developed Intelligence section at a level 2 as opposed to a level 3 incident will be limited and there is no 'level 3' unit of competency in the Public Safety Training Package.

Registration is intended for those personnel who have a particular interest and expertise in managing intelligence, and experience/expertise as a Planning Officer is not necessarily sufficient to establish eligibility. Applicants for registration in this role will be expected to demonstrate specific practical experience in managing complex intelligence requirements at significant incidents.

Education requirements for Registered Intelligence Officer

Applicants must be able to provide documented evidence of successful completion of one or more of the education components and all associated prerequisites as specified in Table 1.

Table 1:

Course or Program
PUAOPE004 Manage the intelligence function at an incident.
An AFAC member agency course for Intelligence Officers working in developed incident management structures which is formally assessed against criteria equivalent to PUAOPE004 Manage the intelligence function at an incident.
A qualification which was awarded after formal assessment and which in the view of the Panel provides evidence of the Applicant’s competence to manage the Intelligence Section in developed incident management structures equivalent to PUAOPE004 Manage the intelligence function at an incident.

Eligibility – Registered Intelligence Officer

Applicants must be able to provide documented evidence to demonstrate that he or she:

- Has signed and committed to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct 2017.
- Has successfully fulfilled the role of Intelligence Officer managing a developed Intelligence Section at moderate to high impact emergency events, including managing Units within the Section, for at least two years and in a minimum of three instances, with at least one instance being in the 12 months before applying. Note: managing an Intelligence Unit at a major incident may be sufficient to demonstrate the necessary experience; managing a Planning Section will generally speaking not be sufficient, as the focus of the role is to manage the Intelligence Cycle for the incident and produce the relevant Intelligence outputs.
- Is in compliance with the *Professional Standard: Continuing Professional Development*.
- Is supported by their home agency or jurisdiction.

Definitions

A moderate to high impact event	Is a Level 2 or level 3 incident or equivalent as described in the AIIMS Manual and as determined by the Panel.
Instance	Is an operational incident, an exercise involving a realistic simulation of an operational incident, or a pre-formed incident management team stood up in anticipation of an operational incident.

Review

This standard will commence April 2018. The Panel will review this standard after five years or as required.

Related professional standards

- Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct (2017)
- Professional Standard: Continuing Professional Development (2018).